



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 18, 2004

H.R. 646 **Fort Donelson National Battlefield Act of 2004**

As reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 5, 2004

H.R. 646 would expand the boundary of the Fort Donelson National Battlefield, a historic Civil War site located in Calloway County, Kentucky. The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land to include in the battlefield by purchase, donation, or exchange. Finally, the bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a memorandum of understanding to protect and interpret Fort Henry, a nearby Civil War site administered by the Forest Service.

According to the National Park Service (NPS), most of the land to be added to the battlefield would be donated by the state of Kentucky, Calloway County, and the West Kentucky Corporation. Assuming the availability of appropriated funds, we estimate that first-year costs to acquire additional land, hire staff, and purchase equipment for the expanded battlefield would total about \$1.2 million. We also estimate that future operational costs would total \$1 million annually. Finally, we estimate that the NPS and the Forest Service would spend less than \$100,000 annually to enhance interpretation services at Fort Henry.

H.R. 646 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs incurred by the state of Kentucky or local governments in that state to acquire land for the park would be voluntary.

On March 26, 2004, CBO submitted a cost estimate for S. 524, the Fort Donelson National Battlefield Expansion Act of 2004, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on March 9, 2004. H.R. 646 is very similar to S. 524, and the estimated costs of the two bills are identical.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.